

Estate of Virgil Brand--Coin Collection--  
Valuation of

Ash, Harry A.

1927

[Inheritance Tax Attourney,  
Chicago, IL]

You can send a  
ten word reply  
to this message  
for only

60  
cents

The reply can be handed to  
messenger or telephoned  
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# WESTERN UNION

WCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

BLUE	Day Letter
NITE	Night Message
NL	Night Letter
LCO	Deferred
CLT	Cable Letter
WLT	Week End Letter

Time on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

N99 78 3 EXTRA, CHICAGO ILL JUL 22 1104A

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,

155 AND BROADWAY.

THE STATE OF ILLINOIS INHERITANCE TAX DEPARTMENT IS  
INTERESTED IN VALUING FOR INHERITANCE TAX PURPOSES A  
VALUABLE COIN COLLECTION AND WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY  
INFORMATION AS TO WHERE WE MAY OBTAIN ASSISTANCE IN  
SECURING A VALUATION OR THE SERVICES OF A VALUATOR IS  
THERE ANY PERSON IN CHICAGO THAT YOU RECOMMEND ALSO WOULD  
GREATLY APPRECIATE COMPLETE INFORMATION AS TO OUR COURSE  
OF PROCEEDURE WILL YOU WRITE FULLY OR WIRE AT OUR EXPENSE  
AS YOU PREFER.

HARRY A ASH INHERITANCE TAX ATTORNEY.

1230P.



July 22, 1927

Mr. Harry A. Ash,  
Inheritance Tax Attorney,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Your telegram of the 22nd, asking that we recommend someone we believe capable of evaluating a large collection of coins is at hand. You do not state the size of the collection, but the fact that it is in Illinois and that the work is to be done for inheritance tax purposes, identifies your question as applying to the Brand collection, and this greatly simplifies responding. If this assumption is incorrect, most of the following statements would apply equally to any other collection of similar extent.

It is very difficult to find a single individual equipped for doing this work for so large a collection. There are a number of dealers who would be very glad to have the commission and though each of them would be informed regarding one or more sections, no single one would be equipped for handling the whole. Our Society could hardly recommend one above the other - even confidentially, because all of them are members of this Society and we cannot show partiality.

The individual who is better equipped, however, than any of the dealers and who unlike them would be disinterested, is Mr. Howland Wood, the Curator of this Museum. I am unable to state whether his duties here would permit his undertaking this task. He will not return from vacation until the end of next week. If you care to entertain the above as a suggestion and desire to communicate further with Mr. Wood, if you will address him here, I shall endeavor to see that your communication reaches him with the least delay possible.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB



## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its character is indicated by a symbol in the check or in the address.

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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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Received at

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

CM91 111 6 EXTRA. CHICAGO ILL 27 941A

1927 JUL 27 AM 11 34

SIDNEY P NOE. SECRETARY AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

155 &amp; BROADWAY NEWYORK NY.

THANKS FOR YOUR TELEGRAM YOU ARE CORRECT IN ASSUMING MY INQUIRY REFERRED TO BRAND COLLECTION OUR GREAT PROBLEM IS TO DETERMINE THE ACTUAL CASH VALUE OF THIS ENTIRE COLLECTION CONSISTING OF TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND COINS AS OF THE DATE OF DEATH DO YOU KNOW OF ANY PERSON OR SOCIETY THAT HAS BID FOR ALL OR PART OF THIS COLLECTION OR DO YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER WAY THAT WE COULD SECURE AN ESTIMATE OF THE CASH VALUE OF THIS COLLECTION OTHER THAN BY THE COURSE YOU SUGGESTED IN YOUR LETTER ANY INFORMATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF YOU WIRE PLEASE DO SO AT OUR EXPENSE.

HARRY A ASH 734 OTIS BLDG CHICAGO.

7735

TELEPHONE No.	
TELEPHONED TO	add
TIME DELIVERED	1151a
BY	163
ATTENDED TO	Mail
DELIVERED	



July 28, 1927.

Harry A. Ash, Esq.,

734 Otis Bldg. Chicago., Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Responding your telegram July 27th,  
I cannot add much to what was said in my former letter.

There have been rumors of offers made for this entire collection, but even if there were a substantiated offer for its purchase, I fail to see how that could be interpreted as other than an indication of what it is worth. Usually offers are deliberately made lower than values - and if made by a dealer would incur an estimate of the cost of holding the collection until it could be marketed.

There are so many conditions which enter into the valuation of coins that no one but an experienced numismatist could equably evaluate them. I wish my reply could be more definite, but can see no way of doing so.

Very tr ly yours,

Secretary.